नहीं हो रहा है, उसके मार्फत सूचना आती है। तो तरह-तरह से सूचनाएं आती हैं, लेकिन अगर आप कहें कि कोई इंटेलिजेंस एजेंसी हमारे पास है तो वह तो नहीं है, लेकिन बाकी सारे मैकेनिज्म जो वैधानिक हैं वह हमारे पास हैं।

श्री सभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी, एक जवाब दें कि इन फर्जी यूनिवर्सिटीज के जो डिग्री होल्डर्स हैं, उन डिग्रीज की क्या स्थिति है?

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: उनकी स्थिति क्या है कि वे अमान्य हैं।

श्री सभापति: अगर अमान्य हैं तो यह बहुत सीरियस मैटर है। इसलिए ये फर्जी विश्वविद्यालय जितनी जल्दी बंद हों उतना ठीक है। बाकी विद्यार्थियों का पैसा खर्च होता है, मां-बाप का पैसा खर्च होता है और बाद में आप कह दें कि डिग्री अमान्य है तो यह ठीक नहीं है। इसलिए इसमें देरी नहीं होनी चाहिए।

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सर, इसमें हमारी तरफ से कोई देरी नहीं है।

श्री सभापति: आपकी तरफ से नहीं है, लेकिन जनहित में आप ऐसे विश्वविद्यालयों को बंद करिए।

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सर, इसमें सम्माननीय न्यायालय में कुछ प्रकरण गए हैं।

श्री सभापति: माननीय न्यायालय की बात तो मैं नहीं करता, लेकिन ...(**व्यवधान**)

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सर, जो उनके पास पड़े हैं, उसमें हम क्या कर सकते हैं? बाकी तो हमने बंद कर दिए हैं।

श्री सभापति: आप कम से कम यह पब्लिकली कह चुके हैं कि फर्जी विश्वविद्यालयों से जो डिग्री प्राप्त हैं, उनको मान्यता नहीं मिलेगी?

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सर, यह तो हम बार बार कह चुके हैं, बारम्बार इसका प्रसार कर रहे हैं कि यह जो फर्जी विश्वविद्यालय हैं इनकी डिग्री की कोई कानूनी वैधता नहीं है। हम यह बार-बार कहते हैं, हर साल कहते हैं और इस बार फिर कहेंगे।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है।

Environmental education

*64. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes and the steps taken by Government for environmental education, awareness and training during the last three years;

(b) whether World Bank assistance has been taken to promote Environment Management Capacity Building Project in the State of Karnataka; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent thereon during the last three years in that State?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Government has taken the following steps under different schemes for environmental education, awareness and training during the last three years.

(i) **Environment Education and Training Scheme:**

— Every year a nationwide environmental awareness campaign called National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) involving about 5000 to 6000 Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) is conducted.

— National Green Corps has been launched by extending the coverage of Eco-clubs programme to 100 schools in each district of the country.

— Production and telecast of a half hour weekly Environmental Magazine Programme titled BHOOMI on Doordarshan and telecast of four 50 seconds infomercials on Discovery Channel everyday have been sponsored.

— Strengthening of Environment Education in School Curriculum has been initiated by taking up a pilot project in eight States namely Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, J&K, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab and Uttranchal.

— the Global Learning and Observations to benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Programme—an International Science and Educational

Programme has been implemented in about 800 schools of the country.

— Financial assistance has been extended for 50 to 60 Workshops/ Seminars/Symposia on environmental issues every year to facilitate exchange of knowledge.

(ii) **Centres of Excellence**

The two Centres of Excellence on environment education, namely Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad and C.P.R. Environment Education Centre, Chennai, supported by the Ministry, organized several training programmes on environment education for teachers, representatives of Non-Government Organisations, Officials of the State Governments etc.

(b) and (c) The Environment Management Capacity Building Project (EMCBP) which is assisted by the World Bank has a national focus. However, the activities undertaken in the State of Karnataka under this Project are given below:

(i) **Strengthening of National Law**: National Law School of India University located in Bangalore (Karnataka) has been provided financial assistance of Rs. 5.96 crore during the last three years to strengthen legal infrastructure, to establish Environmental Law Network and to promote Research and Legal Education.

(ii) **Environmental Policy**: Financial assistance of Rs. 6 lakhs (approximately) each has been sanctioned to the following five Institutions for setting up Environmental Information System (ENVIS) nodes with thematic basis as indicated against each in Karnataka:

— Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT), Bangalore	Medicinal Plants
— National Law School of India University, Bangalore	Environmental Law

— Environment Management Policy Research Institute (EMPRI), Bangalore	Capacity Building in Environmental Management
— Government of Karnataka, Department of Forests, Environment and Ecology, Bangalore	State of Environment
— Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science Bangalore	Western Ghats & Biodiversity

(iii) **Training**: Some officers from Karnataka have been sent for training within and outside India under various components of EMCB Project.

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. The environment education awareness and training programme is the most important concept all over the country, particularly, in view of the fact that India is one of the most polluted countries in the world. The rivers and the cities are becoming more and more polluted. The policy of the Government is to include this subject in the school curriculum. I would like to know whether the Government is proposing to make the environment education compulsory in the school curriculum.

The second part of my question is, what is the amount that has been given by the World Bank for the development of the environmental projects in Karnataka? How much amount, so given by the World Bank, has been used, what is the balance amount, and which projects are still lying pending?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, first of all, I object to the remark made by the hon. Member that India is a highly polluted country. I would like to inform the hon. Member that India is not a highly polluted country when compared to the other countries. Secondly, there are a number of programmes with regard to environmental awareness. There are six schemes, as far as environment awareness is concerned, and India has picked up very fast in this respect during the last three years. I would like to inform the House that in 1986, there were only 115 Non-Government Organisations, whereas, in the year 2001, this figure had gone up to 4581; in the year 2002, this figure had gone up to 5810, and this year, this figure has

risen to 8061. All the NGOs are working perfectly well, and the environment awareness is being created, not only by the NGOs, but also by the Central Government, the State Governments, the Central Pollution Control Board, the State Pollution Control Board and so on, and we have launched six schemes. The first scheme is the National Environment Awareness Campaign, and we have spent Rs. 441 lakhs this year on this scheme. The second scheme is the National Green Corps Scheme on which we have spent Rs. 440 lakhs this year. The third one is the inclusion of Environment Education in School Curriculum with the assistance of the World Bank, and we have spent Rs. 6.37 lakhs on this. In respect of production of publicity material, we have spent Rs. 112 lakhs. With regard to the scheme for conducting symposia, seminars and workshops, we have spent Rs. 13.56 lakhs. As regards the Global Learning and Observations Scheme to benefit the environment, through the World Bank, we have spent Rs. 200 lakhs. As far as Karnataka is concerned, through the World Bank Scheme, we have spent Rs. 461.25 lakhs on the Industrial Pollution Prevention Scheme towards laboratory monitoring; for the upgradation of laboratory facilities, Rs. 717.2 lakhs have been spent; as regards Information Technology, Rs. 471.51 lakhs have been spent and Rs. 145.63 lakhs have been spent on environment education. In totality, Rs. 18.48 crores have been spent. Along with that, there is a Capacity Building Programme with the assistance of the World Bank, on which Rs. 5.19 lakhs have been spent. The total money spent on the aforesaid schemes comes to Rs. 24.44 crores.

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Sir, my question is whether the Government intends to make environmental compulsory in school curriculum or not?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: There is no need to make environmental education a compulsory scheme in school curriculum because already all the States have come forward to introduce the scheme in their curriculum. In the past 4-5 years, this scheme has picked up. In each district, about 100 schools have been selected to have National Green Core training; the students are very much involved in it and it has the support of the Human Resource Development Department, too. The hon. Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, has been kind enough to cooperate with us in this programme. About 50,000 schools have been included throughout the length and breadth of

the country. Therefore, it is not necessary to make it a compulsory subject. Environmental awareness is already a part and parcel of the curriculum in the schools.

SHRI BIRABHADRA SINGH: Sir, it is a very important matter related to the human race. The hon. Minister for Human Resource Development is also here. In my opinion, if, with his permission, environmental awareness scheme is made compulsory in the school curriculum, it will not harm anybody. Rather, it will help our future generation and the present generation also. In this matter, I want to know whether the hon. Minister for Human Resource Development will give a serious consideration to the matter.

डा॰ कुमकुम राय: सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में लगभग 5,000 से 6,000 गैर सरकारी संगठनों को शामिल करते हुए जो अभियान चलाने की बात कही है, उस संबंध में मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूं कि इन 5,000 से 6,000 गैर सरकारी संगठनों को कितनी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संस्थाओं द्वारा वित्तीय सहायता मिली है और अपनी केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इन 5,000 से 6,000 गैर सरकारी संगठनों को इस पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष में कितनी सहायता दी है?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, we have got a World Bank-assisted scheme for Rs. 142 crores. Out of that, for the Department of Ocean Development, Rs. 18.77 crores have been spent. For the Environment Department, Rs. 123.39 crores have been allocated. For the past three years, various programmes have been carried out in the field of environmental research, environmental education, environmental economy, environmental law, and so on and so forth. There are 17 items, and I can go through all of them, but that will consume a lot of time. In the first year, we have spent about Rs. 48 crores; last year, we have spent Rs. 24.64 crores; this year, we have spent about Rs. 21 crores. Altogether, Rs. 93.71 crores have been allocated through the World Bank.

श्री बालकवि बैरागी: सर, इस प्रश्न को आप ले लीजिए।

श्री सभापति: कौन सा प्रश्न?

श्री बालकवि बैरागी: सार, यह प्रश्न संख्या 65। यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है।

श्री सभापति: सब क्वेश्चन महत्वपूर्ण होते हैं। महत्वपूर्ण क्वेश्चन है तो जिन मैम्बर ने यह क्वेश्चन दिया है, कम से कम उनको तो यहां रहना चाहिए था। क्वेश्चन नं॰ 66।

श्री बालकवि बैरागी: सर,...

श्री सभापति: मैं देखता हूं, बाद में समय बच गया तो आपको अलाऊ कर दूंगा। क्वेश्चन नं॰ 66।

*65. [*The Questioner (Shri Ramadhar Kashyap) was absent. For answer vide page. 44 infra.*]

Setting up of a Regional office of National Innovation Foundation at Guwahati

*66. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives and achievements of forming National Innovation Foundation;

(b) list of programmes taken up for implementation during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) whether Government had decided to set up a North Eastern Regional office of National Innovation Foundation at Guwahati; and

(d) if so, the target set and the progress made therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The objectives of the National Innovation Foundation are:-

To help India become an innovative and creative society and a global leader in sustainable technologies by scouting, spawning and sustaining grassroots innovations.

To ensure evolution and diffusion of green grassroots innovations in a selective, time-bound and mission-oriented basis so as to meet the socio-economic and environmental needs of our society.

To provide institutional support in scouting, spawning, sustaining, and scaling up grass-roots green innovations as well as outstanding